

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/071,569

Examiner

Hung X. Dang

Applicant(s)

MAUS ET AL.

Art Unit

2873

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/14/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-105.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Claims Allowed

1. Claims 1-105 are allowed.

Reasons For Allowance

2. The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 1, which include an integrally-molded hanger tab located substantially equidistant between said right lens and said left lens of said paired lens, said hanger tab having a stem rising substantially vertically out of said cold-runner connecting said paired lenses, said hanger tab having a head located on said stem at a point above a highest lens edge when said paired lenses are held vertically in a dipping position, so as to prevent liquid dip hardcoating from contacting robotic means for gripping said head.

The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 18, which include a cold runner having a sprue connecting therebetween a left lens and a right lens in each pair, said cold runner being formed after molten thermoplastic flow from said sprue in fluid communication with said left lens and said right lens is stopped and then cooling to solidification joins together the lenses into a pair, and said sprue has a cold well having negative controlled-draft-angle to grip said paired lenses onto said B side, said cold runner being located in the righthand 1:30-4:30 o'clock side quadrant of the left lens and said cold runner being located in the lefthand 7:30-10:30 o'clock side quadrant of the right lens, (c) an integrally-molded

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hanger tab located substantially equidistant between said right lens and said left lens of said paired lens, said hanger tab having a stem rising substantially vertically out of said cold-runner connecting said paired lenses said hanger tab having a head located on said stem at a point above a highest lens edge when said paired lenses are held vertically in a dipping position, so as to prevent liquid dip hardcoating from contacting robotic means for gripping said head, and said paired lenses formed within said moldset at the end of each molding cycle are robotically handled in the following process steps:

(i) ejecting cleanly off said B side of said moldset being opened along the parting line, said step of ejecting being initiated only when end-of-arm tooling of a side entry takeout robot is in place to receive said paired lenses, (ii) handling said paired lenses by automation within said cleanroom air enclosure without any human operators therein, without any cold runner cutting step or any step of trimming of any tabs off the molded lens before dipcoating, and without use of Freon CFC nor aqueous cleaning protocols before dipcoating, (iii) cooling and removal of electrostatic charge of said paired lenses', (iv) dipcoating said paired lenses with a programmable SCARA cylindrical type robot, as a second robotic device to grip said paired lenses by said hanger tab, said programmable SCARA cylindrical type robot being fitted with jaws cut with a mating geometry for retaining said head of said hanger tab of said paired lenses, for gripping said head while preventing liquid dip hardcoating from contacting said robotic means, employing (a) a filtered circulating bath of liquid hardcoating of 2-10 centistoke iscosity, (b) a withdrawal speed of at least 20 inches per minute (v) drying and curing after dipcoating said paired lenses at least to a tackfree state within said cleanroom air

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enclosure, employing a rotary index drive fitted with a plurality of workholder arms, each workholder arm being fitted with mating geometry for retaining said head of said hanger tab of said paired lenses, operating as a carousel curing workstation.

The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 19, which include the cold-runner including a stem with a free end portion, the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the lens is held in a dipping position, the free end portion to provide a first position for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position along the length for a robotic grip.

The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 30, which include a hanger tab having a head and a stem all integrally-molded to a plastic lens having an upper go-degree quadrant between a 10:30 o'clock and a 1:30 o'clock position when the lens is positioned for dip coating, the stem being edge gated to the lens outside the upper go-degree quadrant; and the stem having a second gripping position along its length between the head and the edge gate.

The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 49, which include the cold-runner including a stem with a free end portion, the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the pair of lenses are held in a dipping position, the free end portion to provide a first position for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position along the length for a robotic grip.

The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 60, which include molding a pair of thermoplastic molded lenses attached by a cold-runner, the cold-runner including a stem with a free end portion, the

free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the pair of lenses are held in a dipping position, the free end portion to provide a first position for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position along the length for a robotic grip; gripping one of the first position and the second position to provide a gripped position, and dip coating the lens pair by immersing the lens pair in solution without immersing the gripped position.

The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as present in independent claim 83, which include molding a thermoplastic molded lens with a cold-runner attached to the lens, the cold-runner including a stem with a free end portion, the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the lens is held in a dipping position, the free end portion to provide a first position for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position along the length for a robotic grip; gripping one of the first position and the second position to provide a gripped position, and dip coating the lens by immersing the lens in solution without immersing the gripped position.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Dang at telephone number (571) 272-2326.

9/07

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hung X. Dang', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Hung X. Dang

Primary Examiner

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